ENTERTAINMENT

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Why This Year's Concert of Colors Is Different, Yet the Same

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COMMUNITY

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Honoring Dr. Lucile Gajec, Longtime Community Historian

# Oficialmente en marcha el proyecto de restauración de la Basílica de Santa Ana tras recibir la bendición

Por Daniel Meloy • Reimpreso con autorización de Detroit Catholic
Fotos por Valaurian Waller, Detroit Catholic

La restauración histórica de la Basílica de Santa Ana, la parroquia más antigua de Detroit, está oficialmente en marcha.

Amigos, simpatizantes, benefactores, clérigos y feligreses se reunieron el 10 de junio para una bendición del lugar a cargo de monseñor Charles Kosanke, rector de Santa Ana, quien se unió a miembros de la familia Pulte y de The Catholic Initiative —la organización sin fines de lucro que encabeza el esfuerzo de renovación de 55 millones de dólares— para una breve ceremonia en la plaza de la basílica.

En julio de 2025, Santa Ana entabló una asociación histórica con The Catholic Initiative para restaurar por completo la histórica iglesia, construida en 1886, así como el campus circundante. La parroquia en sí fue fundada en 1701 y es la segunda parroquia católica en funcionamiento continuo más antigua de los Estados Unidos.

Monseñor Kosanke agradeció a los feligreses y colaboradores de la parroquia desde hace

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*Msgr. Kosanke blesses the facade of the Basilica of Ste. Anne during a ceremony on June 10. Msgr. Kosanke has been pastor since 2016, tasked with restoring the historic parish. / Monseñor Kosanke bendice la fachada de la Basílica de Santa Ana durante una ceremonia el 10 de junio. Monseñor Kosanke ha sido párroco desde 2016, con la tarea de restaurar la histórica parroquia.*

# Restoration of the Basilica of Ste. Anne Blessed with Project Officially Under Way

By Daniel Meloy • Reprinted with permission from Detroit Catholic
Photos by Valaurian Waller, Detroit Catholic

The historic restoration of the Basilica of Ste. Anne, Detroit's oldest parish, is officially under way.

Friends, supporters, benefactors, clergy and parishioners gathered June 10 for a blessing of the site by Msgr. Charles Kosanke, Ste. Anne's rector, who joined members of the Pulte family and The Catholic Initiative, the nonprofit spearheading the $55 million renovation effort, for a short ceremony in the basilica's plaza.

In July 2025, Ste. Anne entered into a historic partnership with The Catholic Initiative to completely restore the historic church, which was constructed in 1886, as well as the surrounding campus. The parish itself was founded in 1701, and is the second-oldest continually operating Catholic parish in the United States.

Msgr. Kosanke thanked longtime parishioners and supporters of the parish, in addition to the Pulte Family Charitable Foundation, who financially support The Catholic Initiative, a

Continues on page 9

# Detroit City FC Opens AlumniFi Field Preview Center at the Mexicantown Mercado

## *Revised project timeline now targets AlumniFi Field opening in spring 2028*

DETROIT – Detroit City FC announced on Tuesday, June 16 the opening of the AlumniFi Field Preview Center at the Mercado in Mexicantown, offering deposit holders a first-hand look at the vision, story, and seating opportunities connected to the club's future forever home, AlumniFi Field at Michigan Avenue and 20th Street.

Open to deposit holders by appointment only, the preview center will begin booking visits this summer, timed to build on the energy surrounding FIFA World Cup 2026. Located just a few blocks from the future stadium site, the space is designed as a hub where supporters can explore updated interior and exterior renderings and learn more about premium and season ticket options.

The preview center features a replica of an AlumniFi Field suite, along with a mix of audio and visual elements that highlight the club's story, as well as updated interior and exterior stadium renderings. A 3D stadium model created by local Detroit-area firm Zoyes Creative will serve as the centerpiece of one showroom area, helping bring the project to life for visitors.

*Rendering of the East Concourse at Alumni Fi Field | Courtesy of Disbrow Iannuzzi Architects*

"Opening the preview center at the Mercado gives our supporters and the broader community a place to connect with what AlumniFi Field is becoming in a way that feels tangible and immediate," said Sean Mann, DCFC Co-Founder and CEO. "The response so far has been incredibly strong, and we are excited to roll out this space in the heart of our community, as we continue to build out a permanent home for soccer in Detroit just a few blocks down the street."

Detroit City FC also announced that the interior spaces of the stadium will be designed by award-winning architecture firm Disbrow Iannuzzi. The partners have led the design of many iconic structures in and around Detroit and beyond, such as Spotlite, The Congregation, Titletown in Green Bay, and Louis Armstrong Stadium in NYC.

The preview center opening comes at a time when more than 6,000 season ticket deposits have already been placed for the inaugural season at AlumniFi Field.

DCFC will soon announce a community owners meeting in the space to further celebrate this historic step in the development process.

As part of this update, the club also shared a revised project timeline that now targets the stadium opening for the 2028 USL Championship season. While planning, design, partnership development, and community engagement

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## Carrying On the Rhythm of a Bridge Builder:

# Why This Year's Concert of Colors Is Different, Yet the Same

By Amber Ogden

For more than three decades, Detroit has been home to a familiar sound, a beautiful, chaotic blend of global rhythms that doesn't belong to just one neighborhood, one culture, or one language, but to us all. And for every one of those years, that sound had a singular architect: Ismael "Ish" Ahmed.

When the neighborhood celebration of Concert of Colors fills the air for the third year in a row in at the Mexicantown Community Development Corporation's Mercado Plaza, it will do so without its north star. Ismael "Ish" Ahmed, the legendary broadcaster, co-founder of ACCESS, and the visionary who founded the festival, passed away in January at the age of 78. He left behind a vastly different city from the one he had started organizing, a city made better, kinder, and infinitely more connected by his presence.

For his wife, Margaret Ahmed, navigating the monumental task of organizing the first festival without him has been a journey of finding strength in what he left behind. When asked where she pulls the energy to keep pushing forward through the grief, "He's this light," Margaret says.

"He's this beautiful light that radiates in all of us. And I think he really exemplified that everywhere he went, everything he did, every person he talked to. He was a very humble, gentle, beautiful light reflecting back to people the best of them."

To understand why this specific Saturday afternoon in June matters so much, you have to go back to 1993. Detroit in the early '90s was a place where communities often lived parallel lives, close in proximity, but divided by invisible, stubborn walls of race, culture, and history.

Ish looked at those walls and decided to build a stage instead.

He started the Concert of Colors on a premise that was as simple as it was radical: If you put a whole city's worth of diverse cultures into one space and gave them incredible music, they wouldn't just tolerate each other, they would truly listen. Over the decades, he proved himself right year after year, turning a small gathering into one of the Midwest's most vital cultural institutions.

Stepping into those massive shoes is daunting, but Margaret and the dedicated "family" of organizers are meeting the moment by leaning on each other.

"I felt like, okay, nobody's gonna do it like Ismael, but all of us together are bringing our energy and light together," Margaret shares. "It happened because it's all of us together, providing that strength and the energy and the resources."

Ish was a founder and organizer, but he was also Detroit's ultimate bridge-builder, all while fighting for Arab-American rights through ACCESS or spinning global tracks on WDET. He lived to connect people.

"He was our glue," Margaret reflects.

"Now, he's our glue spiritually... the light within all of us."

The centerpiece of the day is a special program titled, "We Tell These Truths: All Humans Are Created Equal."

The afternoon will kick off with an onstage conversation led by NPR's brilliant Betto Arcos, featuring members of La Santa Cecilia, to dig into the themes of migration, identity, and the artist's role in advocating for equality. It will be the necessary dialogue that Ish always championed, as a catalyst for social justice.

And then, of course, comes the music.

"La Santa Cecilia isn't just playing a set; they are embodying the very spirit of what Ish spent 30 years building."

Fronted by the powerhouse vocals of Marisol "La Marisoul" Hernandez, La Santa Cecilia effortlessly blends cumbia, bossa nova, rumba, and rock.

Walking through Mexicantown on Saturday, June 27, you're going to feel his absence. You'll look for his warm smile, his sharp eyes,

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and the way he seemed to know every single person in the crowd by name.

But if you listen closely to the accordions, the driving percussion, and the voices singing along in multiple languages, you'll realize he hasn't really left. He's right there in the fabric of the crowd. He's in the laughter shared between strangers buying street tacos, and the kids dancing on the pavement. This festival was Ish's love letter to Detroit. This year, Detroit is writing him back.

*Amber Ogden is a freelance writer born and raised in Detroit. She has published work in Forbes, Chevy in the D, Model D, and Rachel Ray Every Day. She enjoys art, culture, and eating her way through the city in her free time.*

# Detroit City FC Opens AlumniFi Field Preview Center at the Mexicantown Mercado

**Continued from page 1**

continue to advance in the near term, the adjusted timeline is intended to ensure Detroit City FC and its partners deliver the strongest possible fan experience, matchday environment, and long-term community impact. Plans are underway for a ceremonial groundbreaking for AlumniFi Field in July.

Detroit City FC has also introduced an updated priority ranking system designed to recognize community ownership, uninterrupted season ticket seniority, and early deposit commitment, while creating a transparent path for future seating selection. More information on deposit priority is available at www.alumnifield.com.

Season tickets for the 2027 season are slated to go on sale in mid-July. Additional details on season ticket packages and plans can be found at www.detcityfc.com/tickets. Detroit City FC will play the 2027 season at its current home, Keyworth Stadium, in Hamtramck.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on X, Facebook, and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

**About Detroit City FC**

Founded in 2012, Detroit City FC has established itself as one of the most talked-about soccer teams in North America. The organization's founding vision was to satisfy the demand for soccer in downtown Detroit, represent the city in a positive light, and build community through "the beautiful game." Founded by a group of young Detroiters, Detroit City FC has developed into a minor league soccer success story, with one of the most exciting match atmospheres in North America, consistently sold-out games, and passionate supporters. Today, DCFC fields a men's first team that participates in the USL Championship – the second highest level in the US men's game; a women's team that plays in the amateur USL W League, a growing youth academy, a growing statewide affiliation of youth clubs numbering over 3000 players, as well as a successful indoor soccer facility in downtown Detroit. To learn more, see: https://www.detcityfc.com

# Mayor Sheffield Releases Rise Higher Community Survey Data and Resident-Driven Framework for Detroit's Future

On Monday, June 15, Mayor Mary Sheffield released the full data gathered through the Rise Higher Detroit community engagement initiative and unveiled the Rise Higher Detroit Community Framework, a set of concrete recommendations to help the Administration deliver on what Detroit residents care about most.

"We said from the beginning that this Administration would govern alongside the people of Detroit, and this framework is proof of that commitment," said Mayor Mary Sheffield. "We reached people all over the city, listened to what they said they needed most and turned those voices into a framework for action. This framework reflects the lived experiences, priorities and vision of the people who call this city home, and it will help guide the work ahead as we continue building a Detroit that rises higher for everyone."

**Bringing in Community Voices to Shape Priorities**

The Rise Higher Detroit survey collected over 8,000 responses from residents in all 39 Detroit zip codes. With demographic representation that closely mirrors the city's population across key dimensions including age, income, and race/ethnicity, and nearly half of responses collected through direct door-to-door canvassing, it captured a powerful cross-section of Detroit voices to inform Mayor Sheffield's transition and Administration priorities.

Rise Higher Detroit partnered with Detroit Action, Eastside Community Network, and MI Poder, who canvassed door-to-door and in grocery stores, recreation centers, gas stations, churches and other community spaces. The survey was offered digitally and on paper in five languages — English, Spanish, Arabic, Bengali, and French — to ensure every resident had a meaningful opportunity to participate.

In addition to the survey, more than 1,200 residents joined five Community Conversations held across the city, sitting directly at tables with City department heads and senior Administration officials to discuss city challenges and weigh in on potential solutions. Organized around specific topic areas, these conversations gave department leaders actionable, community-driven input they could take back to their teams immediately.

For many participants, it was their first time engaging directly with members of a city Administration who came ready to listen and ready to act.

Nearly 300 community leaders generously volunteered their time and expertise to the Rise Higher Detroit transition, and their contributions helped define the Administration's early success. Once assembled, committee members got straight to work, developing recommendations that directly shaped Mayor Sheffield's 100-day action plan. Detroiters have seen and felt that work over the past several months, as the Mayor delivered early wins in healthcare and human services, affordable housing, transportation, and more. Committee members also drove the translation of the Rise Higher community engagement effort into the concrete policy and programmatic recommendations at the heart of the Community Framework, designing the survey, interpreting results and working side-by-side with City staff to develop bold, achievable recommendations that brought this framework to life.

The survey findings are publicly available through an interactive dashboard, giving all Detroiters access to a comprehensive snapshot of resident priorities. Because the survey reached a broad and representative cross-section of residents from every ZIP code, the data provides insight into both citywide priorities and the unique perspectives of different neighborhoods, age groups and demographic communities. The dashboard is also a tool for accountability — a public record of what Detroiters said they needed, against which the Administration's progress can be measured over time.

"This data is our north star," said David Bowser, Chief of Staff. "Every decision we make, every program we launch, every dollar we invest — we will measure it against what Detroiters told us matters most to them. This dashboard keeps us honest and keeps us focused on delivering real results for the people of this city."

This historic engagement effort was made possible through the generous support of community and philanthropic partners whose contributions are recognized in the Community Framework. These partners share a deep commitment to ensuring that Detroiters — especially those who have historically been left out of civic decision-making — have a meaningful voice in shaping the city's future.

**The Rise Higher Detroit Community Framework**

The Community Framework is a set of concrete recommendations to help this Administration deliver on what Detroit residents care about most. It was built from two sources: the largest community engagement effort in the City's history, and the knowledge and experience of community leaders who served on the Transition Committee. Together, these inputs shaped a bold roadmap to create, expand, and strengthen programs and policies across key areas — from Economic and Workforce Development and Safe and Just Communities to Education and Youth Opportunities — in pursuit of a Detroit that works for all.

The Mayor directed each committee to develop recommendations consistent with her vision and campaign platform: grounded in what is achievable, yet ambitious in scope. Together, these recommendations give the Administration a concrete roadmap — one that is both practically actionable and anchored in the moral center of community voice. The framework represents Mayor Sheffield's commitment to listening and acting, organizing around six priorities that emerged directly from Detroiters:

*Photos by Dante Rionda, City of Detroit*

- Thriving Neighborhoods: Expanding access to youth programs, affordable housing repairs, vibrant public spaces, healthy food and essential city services in every neighborhood.
- Safe and Just Communities: Expanding mental health resources, strengthening youth education and offering job and skills training for at-risk youth
- Reliable Transportation and Sustainable Infrastructure: Modernizing Detroit's transit system and protecting residents from flooding and failing infrastructure.
- Equitable Economic and Workforce Development: Creating career pathways to family-sustaining jobs and supporting small businesses so they can start, stay and grow in Detroit.
- Robust Education and Youth Opportunities: Expanding out-of-school programs and access to paid opportunities and improving mental health support for youth.
- Open and Accessible Government: Improving customer service, increasing transparency and ensuring the highest ethical standards from City government.

**Sheffield Administration in Action**

The voices of Detroiters have already moved this Administration to action. Even before the Community Framework was formally released, the input gathered through Rise Higher Detroit shaped Mayor Sheffield's decisions and priorities. The following initiatives — launched during the Mayor's first 100 days — reflect direct alignment with what residents said they needed most:

- Launching the Rx Kids program in Detroit, which has already enrolled more than 1,400 families and distributed more than $2.3 million to support mothers and babies.
- Creating the Department of Human, Homeless and Family Services to better connect residents with housing, homelessness prevention and other critical support services.
- Directing the installation of at least 3,000 new residential streetlights to improve neighborhood safety and quality of life.
- Launching efforts to streamline permitting for home repairs and accelerate the construction of new housing across Detroit neighborhoods.
- Expanding investments in affordable housing through increased contributions to the city's Affordable Housing Development and Preservation Trust Fund.
- Establishing an Office of Senior Affairs and expanding resources to support Detroit's older adults.
- Raising the minimum wage for full-time City of Detroit employees to a living wage, benefiting approximately 900 workers.

View Results and Full Report - detroitmi.gov/government/mayors-office/rise-higher-detroit-survey.

# Wayne County Treasurer Urges Homeowners to Enroll in Interest Reduction Payment Agreement Plan by June 30, 2026

## *Michigan Legislature set to discontinue program at end of June 2026*

DETROIT – Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree is urging property owners who are struggling to pay years of delinquent property taxes to enroll in the Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA) plan by June 30, 2026. IRSPA is a payment plan designed specifically for owner-occupied properties that significantly reduces the interest rate on delinquent taxes from 18% to 6% for eligible taxpayers.

"Without action by the Michigan Legislature before June 30, this vital payment plan will end this month," said Sabree. "So, we are urging Wayne County property owners who may be struggling to pay back taxes to enroll while they still can, before the Legislature puts an end to this program."

To qualify and sign up for the IRSPA plan, the property owner must live in the home as their principal residence and must have a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) on file to prove permanent residency. If the taxes are in name other than the owner, a copy of the deed must be presented for proof of ownership.

Through the IRSPA program, all past delinquencies can be conveniently bundled into one manageable payment plan, helping families keep their homes and get back on track with tax payments. Eligible property owners are encouraged to enroll in this plan and take advantage of this reduced interest rate before the program ends on June 30, 2026.

The IRSPA enrollment form can be found online at https://www.waynecountymi.gov/files/assets/mainsite/v/1/treasurer/property-amp-taxes/documents/irspa_2022.pdf

WHAT: Enrollment open for the Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement (IRSPA) will end on June 30,2026. Eligible owner-occupied properties can see delinquent tax interest rates reduced from 18% to 6%. All delinquent taxes are bundled into one comprehensive payment plan. Applicants must have a Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) proving permanent residency.

WHERE: Wayne County Treasurer's Office 400 Monroe, Detroit, MI 48226 Enrollment and assistance are also available online at https://www.waynecountymi.gov/Government/Elected-Officials/Treasurer/Payment-Plans

WHEN: Normal Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Taxpayers are encouraged to enroll as soon as possible before the IRSPA plan ends on June 30, 2026.

WHO: Taxpayer assistance staff are available for in-person walk-in appointments at the Wayne County Treasurer's office. For questions to determine if you qualify for IRSPA, or for assistance with enrollment, contact the Treasurer's office at 313-224-5990 or visit treasurer@waynecounty.com.

# State of Michigan Historical Marker to Honor Dr. Lucile Cruz Gajec

## *Remembering Luci a longtime Community Historian in Southwest Detroit*

By Irma Maribel Andrade

The State of Michigan Historical Marker for Dr. Lucile Gajec has arrived at La Joya Gardens! This marker is among the first in Michigan to highlight LatinX history and to feature a Spanish/English translation.

In Southwest Detroit, near the corner of W. Vernor & Hubbard St, this marker will soon stand as a permanent testament to a woman who dedicated her life to ensuring that the stories of Mexican-Americans in Detroit and Indiohispanic peoples would never be forgotten. The State of Michigan Historical Commission approved the installation of a Michigan Historical Marker honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Lucile Cruz Gajec—educator, historian, founder of Museo Indigenista, and the woman long known as "the community historian of Southwest Detroit."

A public dedication ceremony is being planned for Sunday June 28, 2026 from 1-3pm at La Joya Gardens, 4000 W Vernor Hwy, Detroit, MI 48209. The event is hosted by Detroit VOCES Collective (DVC) in partnership with Southwest Detroit Business Association's La Joya Gardens.

The marker placement was chosen because it is the former site of Museo Indigenista. "It is an honor for La Joya Gardens to be the host for the marker that remembers and commemorates Dr. Gajec and her work in this community on this site. We are stewards of this land. We want to make this a space for the community of Southwest to celebrate, and further her legacy", said Greg Mangan, Real Estate Advocate at SDBA.

Born March 4, 1926, in Harlingen, Texas, Dr. Gajec was a third-generation American of Mexican descent, the daughter of a U.S. citizen father and an Indigenous mother. She grew up in Texas public schools under the harsh English immersion ideology of the era — a system designed to make children forget their native languages. That early experience of cultural erasure would fuel a lifelong mission: To preserve, teach, and celebrate the Indo-Hispanic roots of Mexican people.

Dr. Gajec arrived in Detroit in 1959 and quickly became a force across multiple sectors. For thirty years, she worked at the Michigan Employment Security Commission as the Latin American Community liaison, but her evenings and weekends belonged to the community of southwest.

Dr. Gajec's service on boards and committees spanned from 1968 to 2002, including roles with the LA SED (Latin Americans for Social & Economic Development), Circulo Mutualista Mexicano, National Association of Folklore Groups, Mexican Patriotic Committee, Detroit Ethnic Festivals Committee, Most Holy Trinity, Corktown College Folk Dance Group, and LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) among many more. She received recognitions from organizations in the City of Detroit, across Michigan, and internationally—honored as a guardian of Mexican culture and a preserver of a people's history.

"I cried," said Elena Herrada. "Not because I was sad. Because finally, the state is recognizing what we always knew. Luci was our walking archive. She was the abuela who never forgot to tell us where we came from."

Dr. Gajec's academic achievements were equally remarkable. She earned an Associate of Arts from Wayne County Community College (1970), a Bachelor of Social Sciences from Shaw College at Detroit (1974), a Master of Public Administration from the University of Michigan-Flint (1987), and a Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Wayne State University (1993).

However, it was her work outside formal institutions that may have left the deepest imprint. In 1991, Dr. Gajec founded and directed Museo Indigenista—a museum dedicated to preserving Indo-Hispanic cultures. What began as an informal personal collection of Mexican cultural artifacts grew, through her curation and passion, into a community treasure. She never sought external funding, relying instead on her own resources and donations from community members who believed in her mission. Through the museum, she educated Detroit Public School students and visitors on the Indigenous roots of Mexican people — reaffirming cultural practices that run deep in the history of Mexico and North America.

"She made sure the children knew where they came from," said Rachel Harness. "Now Michigan will make sure nobody forgets her."

What made Dr. Gajec unique was her insistence on the Indigenous part of the story. She didn't just teach Mexican pride. She taught that Mexican identity is Indigenous identity. That was radical. And it was true.

"Dr. Gajec was unequivocally the community historian of Southwest Detroit and Detroit Latinos broadly," says Elena Herrada.

From 1996 to 2002, she served as a feature writer for EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. Her articles explored the historical origins of Mexican cultural practices, customs, current events, and Indo-Hispanic history. Dolores Sanchez, founder of EL CENTRAL, recalled that Dr. Gajec's articles were "an extension of her museum and research," making the knowledge of El Museo Indigenista publicly accessible to all.

Dr. Lucile "Luci" Cruz Gajec passed away on April 29, 2008, in Detroit, but her work has never left the neighborhoods she served. The new Michigan Historical Marker will ensure that future generations walking the streets of Southwest Detroit will see her name and know that one woman, born to migrant workers in Texas, can build a museum, shape a community's memory, and change history.

The Michigan Historical Marker Program typically honors sites, structures, and individuals of statewide significance. Irma Maribel Andrade Guzman served as the lead researcher for the marker process. Dr. Gajec's application was supported by documents from the Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, University of Michigan Bentley Historical Library, Museo Indigenista archives (housed at Ideal Group), and private photographs and documents shared by Rachel Harness (Dr. Gajec's daughter). This marker was made possible by the Michigan History Center through the generous support of the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

*Irma Maribel Andrade is a born and raised Detroiter, she is passionate about "lifting others as you climb". She is a community-centered cultural heritage professional, and the daughter of immigrants from San Luis Potosi, Mexico. When she is not working, Irma spends her time gardening, reading, and with her family.*

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# Restauración de la Basilica de Santa Ana

Continúa de la página 1

mucho tiempo, además de a la Pulte Family Charitable Foundation, que apoya financieramente a The Catholic Initiative, una organización sin fines de lucro dedicada a dotar de fondos y apoyar espacios sagrados y escuelas católicas.

Monseñor Kosanke, quien se ha desempeñado como párroco y rector de Santa Ana desde 2016, reflexionó sobre la última década de progreso en la parroquia, la cual fue nombrada basílica menor por el Papa Francisco en 2020.

El 1 de julio, monseñor Kosanke será sucedido por el padre Timothy Laboe como rector de Santa Ana.

"El propósito de mi llegada aquí era restaurar la iglesia", comentó monseñor Kosanke, quien el próximo mes asumirá un nuevo cargo como rector de la otra basílica de la Arquidiócesis de Detroit, la Basílica del Santuario Nacional de la Pequeña Flor (National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica) en Royal Oak. "En ese momento, yo no sabía qué significaba eso. Pero cuando miré los ejemplos de San Francisco de Asís, San Juan Vianney y San Vicente de Paúl, por nombrar a tres personas clave, comprendí que eso también significaba renovar a la comunidad, lo cual es más importante que los edificios; sin embargo, los edificios están aquí para servir a la comunidad".

En aquel tiempo, monseñor Kosanke y su equipo pastoral en Santa Ana elaboraron un plan maestro para la basílica, el cual incluía 26 millones de dólares en renovaciones necesarias, pero no estaban seguros de cómo recaudarían el dinero.

"Estaba en oración diaria ante el Santísimo Sacramento, pidiendo la guía del Señor", relató monseñor Kosanke. "Pero cada vez que lo intentaba, la puerta no se abría porque los donantes que podían darme dinero decían: 'Bueno, ¿y qué pasa si no lo recaudas todo? Entonces mi donación se va a la basura'".

*Monseñor Charles Kosanke (centro derecha), rector saliente de la Basílica de Santa Ana, y el nuevo rector, el padre Timothy Laboe (centro izquierda), posan junto a miembros de The Catholic Initiative y The Christman Company durante el anuncio y la bendición de los trabajos de renovación de la basílica, los cuales se espera que concluyan para la Navidad de 2027.*

par de sus hermanos, pero no conocía a Mark en ese momento", dijo monseñor Kosanke. "Pero organicé una reunión con él, le hablé de la situación y me dijo: 'Creo que puedo ayudar'".

El resultado terminó siendo una alianza única entre la Arquidiócesis de Detroit y The Catholic Initiative, la cual aceptó encabezar un esfuerzo de 55 millones de dólares para restaurar el edificio y el campus circundante, así como establecer un fondo patrimonial permanente para garantizar la sostenibilidad a largo plazo de Santa Ana.

"Santa Ana ha permanecido como un faro de fe, esperanza y perseverancia en Detroit durante generaciones", afirmó Mark Pulte, cofundador y presidente de The Catholic Initiative. "A través de esta restauración, no solo estamos preservando un edificio cultural extraordinario, sino invirtiendo en un espacio sagrado que continuará sirviendo a las familias, recibiendo a los visitantes y fortaleciendo a la comunidad durante las próximas décadas".

*Los feligreses de Santa Ana expresaron su entusiasmo a Detroit Catholic por la restauración de su parroquia, señalando que es una oportunidad para mostrar una joya de fe y cultura en el suroeste de Detroit a la comunidad en general.*

Monseñor Kosanke seguía orando ante el Santísimo Sacramento cuando, de repente, le vino a la mente Mark Pulte, hijo del fallecido constructor de viviendas de Michigan, filántropo y colaborador de proyectos católicos, William J. Pulte.

"Conocía a su papá y a un

***La histórica restauración a gran escala de la parroquia más antigua de Detroit tiene como objetivo devolver al templo su antigua gloria y fortalecer a la comunidad parroquial.***

El arzobispo de Detroit, Edward J. Weisenburger, quien no pudo asistir a la bendición debido a la asamblea de primavera de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos en Orlando, Florida, expresó su gratitud por el proyecto, señalando que beneficiará a la próspera comunidad católica durante las generaciones venideras.

"Santa Ana ha sido una parte invaluable de la presencia católica en Detroit durante más de 300 años", expresó el arzobispo Weisenburger en un comunicado. "Esta restauración es una inversión no solo en una iglesia histórica, sino en una comunidad parroquial activa que continúa rindiendo culto, sirviendo y recibiendo a personas de todo el suroeste de Detroit y más allá. Estamos agradecidos con todos los que están ayudando a hacer realidad esta visión".

La bendición del 10 de junio marcó el inicio formal del proyecto de renovación, el cual incluirá la restauración de vitrales, trabajos en piedra, puertas, iluminación, yeso, pintura y más, así como mejoras en el campus que contemplan un nuevo pabellón al aire libre, senderos, jardinería, estacionamiento y un muro de oración exterior. También se planean modernizaciones y mejoras estructurales para el salón parroquial, el centro de bienestar y los edificios adyacentes.

El proyecto preservará y restaurará la belleza histórica y la integridad arquitectónica de los edificios, al tiempo que incorporará mejoras modernas, como nuevos sistemas de plomería y electricidad, mayor accesibilidad y aire acondicionado.

La primera fase de la restauración de la basílica, que incluyó reparaciones en el techo y los campanarios, se completó en 2023.

Con el apoyo de The Catholic Initiative, los trabajos de la siguiente fase de restauración han estado en marcha desde noviembre de 2025.

Actualmente, ya se ha levantado un andamiaje interior dentro de la iglesia y se han retirado los bancos para una restauración completa. The Christman Company, una empresa de construcción con sede en Lansing, ha sido contratada para llevar a cabo el proyecto de restauración, el cual abarcará cada aspecto del interior del templo construido en 1886.

"Cualquier cosa que señale dentro de la iglesia va a ser restaurada", comentó Austin Giesey, gerente senior de proyectos de The Christman Company, a Detroit Catholic. "Así que todo en el campus, desde la fachada y la infraestructura subterránea hasta los vitrales y el uso de la rectoría; absolutamente todo será intervenido y restaurado con un nuevo propósito y vida".

The Christman Company tiene como objetivo concluir el proyecto para la Navidad de 2027.

Mientras se realiza la restauración, la comunidad parroquial de Santa Ana se ha estado reuniendo en la cercana Iglesia de la Santísima Trinidad (Most Holy Trinity Church) para la misa, y continuará haciéndolo hasta que se complete el proyecto.

Bob Wayner, un feligrés de Santa Ana que ha sido miembro de la comunidad durante 50 años, describió la inversión de The Catholic Initiative en la parroquia como "increíble".

"He estado aquí durante 50 años, así que he vivido los altibajos del vecindario, de la ciudad y de todo lo demás, y simplemente he estado enamorado de este lugar. Es hermoso", dijo Wayner. "Verlo restaurado de esta manera, para todos nosotros los feligreses, es un milagro. No es solo un museo; es un hogar vivo donde la gente viene y va —niños, abuelos, familias— y forma parte de nuestra historia".

Wayner no puede esperar a que llegue la Navidad de 2027, cuando él y su familia volverán a participar en el Santo Sacrificio de la Misa en una iglesia de Santa Ana restaurada con toda su antigua gloria.

"Si no me equivoco, históricamente creo que la primera misa celebrada aquí fue una misa de Navidad, allá por 1887", comentó Wayner. "Así que eso sería como revivir la historia otra vez. No hemos visto nuestro hogar, y estar allí de nuevo en un día festivo, ¡Dios mío, estaríamos extasiados!".

Michael McLaughlin, director de inspiración de The Catholic Initiative, señaló que el proyecto fue posible gracias a un acuerdo aprobado por el Vaticano —el primero en su tipo— entre la Arquidiócesis de Detroit y la organización sin fines de lucro, la cual compró la basílica bajo la condición de arrendarla de vuelta a la parroquia de manera exclusiva y perpetua.

"Tuvimos la bendición de obtener la aprobación del Vaticano para concretar un acuerdo de arrendamiento posterior inmediato", explicó McLaughlin. "Por lo tanto, somos los administradores de activos y los titulares de los bienes raíces de este hermoso campus de Santa Ana. Somos responsables de este proyecto desde una perspectiva de capital y recaudación de fondos. Trabajamos en conjunto con monseñor Chuck y ahora con el padre Tim (Laboe), el párroco entrante, para que ellos puedan atender a su rebaño y nosotros podamos enfocarnos en la restauración, el fondo patrimonial y el centro comunitario que apoya a esta parroquia".

La misión de The Catholic Initiative es servir a las parroquias y escuelas católicas que son "ricas en fe y de bajos recursos", como expresó McLaughlin, y la esperanza es que la historia de Santa Ana de Detroit —la segunda parroquia en funcionamiento continuo más antigua del país— capte la imaginación y la generosidad de donantes de todo el país.

La historia de Santa Ana —desde un asentamiento francés hasta una próspera parroquia de Detroit que hoy en día atiende a una gran congregación hispana— es una "historia poderosa" que resuena a través de las generaciones, señaló McLaughlin.

"Es una historia increíble que contar, la segunda parroquia en funcionamiento más antigua de los Estados Unidos", afirmó McLaughlin. "Es un reflejo de miles de otras iglesias en los Estados Unidos, donde la población católica es tan internacional. Ahora es una parroquia próspera con una población latina. Estamos buscando la manera de apoyar a esta parroquia por otros 200 años".

# Full-scale Renovation of Detroit's Oldest Parish

Continued from page 1

nonprofit devoted to endowing and supporting sacred spaces and Catholic schools.

Msgr. Kosanke, who has served as Ste. Anne's pastor and rector since 2016, reflected on the past decade of progress at the parish, which was named a minor basilica by Pope Francis in 2020.

On July 1, Msgr. Kosanke will be succeeded by Fr. Timothy Laboe as rector of Ste. Anne.

"The purpose of my coming here was to restore the church," said Msgr. Kosanke, who next month will take on a new role as rector of the Archdiocese of Detroit's other basilica, the National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica in Royal Oak. "Now, I didn't know what that meant. But when I looked at (the examples of) St. Francis of Assisi, St. John Vianney and St. Vincent de Paul, to name three key people, that meant also renewing the community, which is more important than buildings, but the buildings are here to serve the community."

At the time, Msgr. Kosanke and his pastoral team at Ste. Anne put together a master plan for the basilica, which included $26 million in needed renovations, but were unsure how they would raise the money.

"I was in daily prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, asking for guidance from the Lord," Msgr. Kosanke said. "But every time I turned around, the door would not open because donors who could give me money said, 'Well, what if you don't raise it all? Then my donation goes down the drain.'"

*Scaffolding surrounds the interior and exterior of the Basilica of Ste. Anne in Southwest Detroit as a historic restoration campaign gets under way. Officials hope the renovation will be completed by December 2027.*

***Historic, full-scale renovation of Detroit's oldest parish aims to restore church to its former glory, strengthen parish community***

Msgr. Kosanke continued praying before the Blessed Sacrament, when suddenly Mark Pulte, son of the late Michigan-based homebuilder, philanthropist and supporter of Catholic projects William J. Pulte, came to mind.

"I knew his dad, and I knew a couple of his brothers, but I didn't know Mark at the time," Msgr. Kosanke said. "But I arranged to meet with him and talked about the situation, and he said, 'I think I can help.'"

The result ended up being a unique partnership between the Archdiocese of Detroit and The Catholic Initiative, which agreed to spearhead a $55 million effort to restore the building and surrounding campus, as well as establish a permanent endowment to support Ste. Anne's long-term sustainability.

"Ste. Anne has stood as a beacon of faith, hope and perseverance in Detroit for generations," said Mark Pulte, co-founder and chairman of The Catholic Initiative. "Through this restoration, we are not only preserving a remarkable cultural building but investing in a sacred place that will continue to serve families, welcome visitors and strengthen the community for decades to come."

Detroit Archbishop Edward J. Weisenburger, who could not attend the blessing because of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' spring meeting in Orlando, Fla., expressed his gratitude for the project, saying it will benefit the thriving Catholic community for generations to come.

"Ste. Anne has been a treasured part of the Catholic presence in Detroit for more than 300 years," Archbishop Weisenburger said in a statement. "This restoration is an investment not only in an historic church, but in an active parish community that continues to worship, serve, and welcome people from across southwest Detroit and beyond. We are grateful to all who are helping make this vision a reality."

The June 10 blessing marked the formal beginning of the renovation project, which will include restored stained-glass windows, stonework, doors, lighting, plaster, paint and more, as well as campus enhancements such as a new outdoor pavilion, walkways, landscaping, parking and an outdoor prayer wall. Upgrades and structural enhancements are also planned for the parish hall, wellness center and adjacent buildings.

The project will preserve and restore the historic beauty and architectural integrity of the buildings while incorporating modern improvements, including new plumbing and electrical systems, enhanced accessibility, and air conditioning.

A first phase of the basilica's restoration, which included roof and bell tower repairs, was completed in 2023.

With The Catholic Initiative's support, work on the next phase of the restoration has been under way since November 2025.

Already, interior scaffolding has been erected inside the church, and the pews have been removed for a complete restoration. The Christman Company, a Lansing-based construction company, has been hired to do the restoration project, which will include every aspect of the interior of the 1886-built church.

"If you point to anything you see in the church, it is going to be restored," Austin Giesey, senior project manager for The Christman Company, told Detroit Catholic. "So everything on campus, from the facade to the infrastructure underneath the ground to the stained-glass windows to the use of the rectory, everything is going to be touched and restored with new purpose and life."

The Christman Company is targeting Christmas of 2027 for the project's completion.

As the restoration is under way, the Ste. Anne parish community has been meeting at nearby Most Holy Trinity Church for Mass, and will continue to do so until the project is completed.

Bob Wayner, a parishioner at Ste. Anne who has been a member of the community for 50 years, described The Catholic Initiative's investment in the parish as "amazing."

"I've been here for 50 years, so through the ups and downs of the neighborhood, the city and everything else, and I've just been in love with this place. It's gorgeous," Wayner said. "Seeing it restored like this, for all of us parishioners, is a miracle for us. It's not just a museum; it's a living home where people come and go — children, grandparents, families — and it's in our history."

*The pews of Basilica of Ste. Anne have been removed for restoration, and interior scaffolding has been set up to begin work on the plastering and painting of the walls.*

Wayner can't wait until Christmas 2027, when he and his family will once again partake in the Holy Sacrifice in the Mass in a Ste. Anne's restored to all her former glory.

"If I'm not mistaken, historically, I think the first Mass said here was a Christmas Mass, back in 1887," Wayner said. "So that would be like reliving history again. We haven't seen our home, and to be there on a holiday again, oh my gosh, we'd be ecstatic."

Michael McLaughlin, chief inspiration officer for The Catholic Initiative, said the project was made possible by the first-of-its-kind, Vatican-approved arrangement between the Archdiocese of Detroit and the nonprofit, which purchased the basilica on the condition that it's exclusively and perpetually leased back to the parish.

"We were blessed to get Vatican approval to complete an immediate lease-back agreement," McLaughlin said. "So, we are the asset manager and holder of the real estate of this beautiful campus of Ste. Anne's. We are responsible, from a capital and fundraising perspective, for this project. We work in tandem with Msgr. Chuck, and now Fr. Tim (Laboe), the pastor coming on board, so they can minister to their flock and we can focus on restoration and the endowment and the community hub that supports this parish."

*Mark Pulte, chairman of the board of directors of The Catholic Initiative, is presented with slates impressed with blueprints of the interior of the church.*

The Catholic Initiative's mission is to serve Catholic parishes and schools that are "high in faith and low funded," as McLaughlin put it, and hope is that the story of Ste. Anne de Detroit — the second-oldest continuously operating parish in the country — captures the imagination and generosity of donors all over the country.

The story of Ste. Anne's — from a French settlement to a thriving Detroit parish that today serves a large Hispanic congregation — is a "powerful story" that resonates through the generations, McLaughlin said.

"It's an incredible story to tell, the second-oldest operating parish in the United States," McLaughlin said. "It's reflective of thousands of other churches in the United States, where the Catholic population is so international. Now it's a thriving parish with a Latino population. We're looking for a way to support this parish for another 200 years."

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

# Team USA Fans Pack Campus Martius

Story and photos by Adam J. Dewey - for EL CENTRAL

About 4,000 supporters of the U.S. Men's National Team packed in Campus Martius in downtown Detroit, MI for a Watch Party of the USA vs Paraguay World Cup Match, this past Friday, a game resulting in a 4-1 Victory for USA.

The US men's team take on Australia, on Friday, June 19th at 3:00 p.m.

Photos below are highlights from the Team USA watch party at Campus Martius

# Smith Bags Five in Record-Setting Win

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Patcando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

After a two-hour weather delay in Jacksonville, Darren Smith delivered a performance for the ages in a 6-2 rout of Sporting Jax that lifted Detroit City to second place in the Eastern Conference.

The weather didn't do DCFC any favors last week. On Wednesday, they dealt with two lengthy delays before eking out a 1-1 draw at home against El Paso. Abdoulaye Diop's equalizer early in the second half, which came well after 10:00pm, gave DCFC a hard-earned point against the stubborn visitors. Diop's goal canceled out a spectacular bicycle kick from former USA youth international Amando Moreno.

Given DCFC's road woes, the trip to winless Jacksonville could have been tricky. The inclement weather kept the home crowd away. The league reported that just 450 people turned out to see what would become a historic night. It's hard to say how many remained by the end of the evening, but it didn't look like a lot.

Darren Smith has been among the league leaders in goals since arriving from Europe. The South African has had good performances, but this one will be remembered for a long time. He scored five goals from six shots in just twenty total touches. His goals in the 13th minute, 26th minute, and with the final touch of the first half staked DCFC to an insurmountable 3-1 lead. Remarkably, the home team scored first and had DCFC scrambling in during the first few minutes.

Smith's added two more during the second half before Kobe Hernandez-Foster scored on a stunning free kick with the final touch of the game. The game statistics didn't show that DCFC dominated. Sporting Jax outshot DCFC 13-12 and won more corner kicks (5-3). DCFC only dominated where it counted: finishing. Smith's output represents only the second time a player in the USL Championship has ever scored five times in a game. The haul launched him clear at the top of the league scoring chart with 11 goals. The next closest players have just 8.

The big win, combined with the point earned against El Paso, moved DCFC to second spot in the Eastern Conference, seven points behind the Tampa Bay Rowdies. They won't have a chance to address that gap for a little while, though. On Saturday, Louisville City will be at Keyworth for DCFC's third match in the Prinx Tires USL Cup. To have any chance of progressing Le Rouge will have to win in regulation time and claim three points. Anything less will rule them out of qualifying for the quarterfinals.

**Positive Start for all Three World Cup Hosts**

After multiple opening ceremonies, the three World Cup hosts jumped right into the action. Mexico went first, playing in the Azteca, and easily won 2-0 over South Africa. It was easy, but it wasn't really a strong showing. South Africa earned the first two red cards of the World Cup, finishing with nine players. Mexico failed to take advantage of being up one and then two players.

Julian Quinones opened the scoring after just nine minutes. But instead of piling on a clearly weaker team, Mexico immediately slowed the play. Even the first red card after 49 minutes didn't give them any sense of urgency. The home crowd let their feelings be known by whistling and jeering the team for much of the second half. Raul Jimenez doubled the lead after 67 minutes, but that did little to chance the pace of the game. Mexico just wanted to play at a walking pace. Their casual approach may have encouraged South Africa to try and sneak a goal. Cesar Montes got caught daydreaming in defense and stupidly chopped down Khuliso Mudau to earn a straight red card. That rules him out of the next game against South Korea, which will be much tougher.

Canada played their first match as a World Cup host in Toronto. They hosted Bosnia-Herzegovina in front of a packed house. Missing stars Alphonso Davies and Marcelo Flores, Jesse Marsch's team looked short of attacking ideas. The Bosnians came with plenty of support and shocked Canada by taking an early lead from a corner kick. Jovo Lukic headed in at the near post, sucking the wind out of the home crowd.

Marsch made changes during the second half as Canada desperately chased an equalizer. In the 78th minute Cyle Larin, on as a substitute, whirled and fired in the goal that lifted his nation. The teams settled for a draw. For Canada, the draw represents the first time they have not lost a World Cup game. With that point they remain well-placed in Group B, because the other opening game between Switzerland and Qatar was also a draw.

Ahead of the USA's opening match, few people knew what to expect. In March, they were comfortably outclassed by Portugal and Belgium. They had an encouraging win over Senegal and a decent performance in a narrow loss to Germany during the pre-World Cup camp. The biggest concern was Chris Richards' fitness. The Crystal Palace defender hadn't played in over a month, but pronounced himself fit on the eve of the opener.

What we saw from Mauricio Pochettino's team was nothing like anyone has seen before. The Americans came out and ripped Paraguay apart from the opening whistle. This looked like the big win over Uruguay last November. They played at a blistering pace, never letter Paraguay settle on the ball and rarely allowing them past midfield.

By halftime the USA had run up three goals and that probably flattered Paraguay. The first goal may have been an own goal, but the USA created it with some superb work down the left from Antonee Robinson and Christian Pulisic. Folarin Balogun added two more before the break. Pulisic set up the first with a terrific run, splitting two defenders, before squaring to his center forward. On the second, Balogun ran on to a perfect through ball from Malik Tillman and broke down two defenders before whipping a left-footed shot into the top corner.

Pulisic left at halftime after taking a kick on an already sore calf. Pochettino called the move precautionary. Pulisic has resumed training, but on a modified program and should be ready for Australia on Friday.

Without Pulisic, the US attack slowed. They still created plenty but didn't stretch the score into an embarrassingly high number. Paraguay took advantage of a bit of shoddy defending to get on the scoreboard, but substitute Gio Reyna capped off a perfect night with a delicious shot with the outside of his right foot. The "trivela" finish came at the end of a 26 pass move that involved nearly every American on the field. It's hard to imagine that most of these same players were involved in the Copa America debacle two year ago. The 4-1 blowout of Paraguay ranks among the best performances any USA team has even given at a World Cup. Now, they have to do it seven more times and improve along the way.

## Fans Pack Campus Martius cont.

*Con't from pg. 10*

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EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS

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EL CENTRAL informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino/a community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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# EDITORIAL OPINION

**Guest Opinion:**

## The Non-Victory
## Compared to where we were before February 28, it's a terrible failure

By Robert Reich

Trump again claims victory in Iran. He's claimed victory before, but now he has a so-called "agreement" with Iran.

That agreement, which appears to be no more than a memo of understanding — that is, a set of principles to which Iran and the United States have agreed — stops the fighting and reopens the Strait of Hormuz but it does not deal with the issue that caused Trump to initiate the conflict: Iran's nuclear program.

Keep that in mind as you hear various renditions of what's been decided. Recall that the Strait of Hormuz was open before Trump began bombing Iran. At best, the agreement Trump is touting restores the status quo to where it was when he commenced hostilities. Remember also that Iran had agreed to limit its development of nuclear-grade materials in its treaty with the Obama administration, which Trump revoked in 2018.

So what has been accomplished? Iran now is under the control of a more extremist regime than when Trump started this war. Oil prices are far higher and will take some time to return to where they were before it began (if they ever do). Meanwhile, Trump has caused the United States to be more dependent on fossil fuels than we were prior to his inauguration for a second time, and the high oil prices brought on by his war has enriched Vladimir Putin's regime.

The war with Iran has cost the United States an estimated $90 billion, and that's a conservative estimate. It has caused widespread suffering throughout the Middle East. It has put Israel in a more precarious situation than it was before — and much of that is due to Benjamin Netanyahu, who is not a party to, and has not approved, the agreement.

This doesn't look like a victory. Compared to where the United States and the Middle East were on February 28, when Trump began this war, it's a terrible failure.

**Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor**

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**Opinión de un Invitado:**

## La no victoria
## En comparación con la situación anterior al 28 de febrero, es un fracaso terrible.

**Por Robert Reich**

Trump vuelve a proclamar la victoria en Irán. Ya había cantado victoria anteriormente, pero ahora cuenta con un supuesto "acuerdo" con Irán.

Dicho acuerdo —que parece no ser más que un memorando de entendimiento, es decir, un conjunto de principios aceptados tanto por Irán como por Estados Unidos— pone fin a las hostilidades y reabre el estrecho de Ormuz, pero no aborda la cuestión que llevó a Trump a iniciar el conflicto: el programa nuclear iraní.

Tenga esto presente al escuchar las distintas versiones sobre lo que se ha decidido. Recuerde que el estrecho de Ormuz ya estaba abierto antes de que Trump comenzara a bombardear Irán. En el mejor de los casos, el acuerdo que Trump promociona simplemente restablece la situación al estado en que se encontraba cuando él inició las hostilidades. Recuerde también que Irán se había comprometido a limitar el desarrollo de materiales de grado nuclear en el tratado suscrito con la administración Obama, acuerdo que Trump revocó en 2018.

Entonces, ¿qué se ha logrado? Irán está ahora bajo el control de un régimen más extremista que cuando Trump inició esta guerra. Los precios del petróleo son mucho más elevados y tardarán tiempo en volver a los niveles previos al conflicto (si es que alguna vez lo hacen). Entretanto, Trump ha hecho que Estados Unidos dependa más de los combustibles fósiles que antes de su mandato, y los altos precios del crudo derivados de su guerra han enriquecido al régimen de Vladímir Putin.

La guerra con Irán ha costado a Estados Unidos unos 90.000 millones de dólares, una cifra conservadora. Ha provocado un sufrimiento generalizado en todo Oriente Medio. Ha dejado a Israel en una situación más precaria que antes, en gran medida debido a Benjamin Netanyahu, quien no forma parte del acuerdo ni lo ha aprobado.

Esto no parece una victoria. Si se compara con la situación en la que se encontraban Estados Unidos y Oriente Medio el 28 de febrero — cuando Trump inició esta guerra—, se trata de un fracaso rotundo.

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# SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

## Guyana

## Guyana

The Co-operative Republic of Guyana is one of the smallest countries on the mainland of South America. It offers a variety of tourist attractions, including not only its coastline, which seems straight out of a dream, but also its rivers and waterfalls. The name Guyana comes from an Arawak root word meaning "land of many waters."

Guyana is located between the Orinoco River and the Amazon River, allowing it to share in the natural wealth of the Amazon rainforest region. Because it lies within the equatorial zone, the country is characterized by tropical rainforests and humid forests.

Guyana holds a strategic position in the continental Caribbean region, as it borders both Brazil and Venezuela. The territory was colonized by the British and, although it fought for independence from the United Kingdom, it maintains a unique relationship with its former colonial power, remaining a member of the Commonwealth of Nations since achieving independence in 1966.

The Indigenous peoples officially recognized by the government include the Makushi, Wapishana, Lokono (Arawak), Akawaio, Patamona, Wai Wai, Arekuna, and Warrau.

Visitors to Guyana often take the opportunity to experience a rich culinary tradition that brings together influences from three continents: the Americas, Africa, and Europe.

Among the country's most notable attractions are Kaieteur Falls, the Iwokrama Forest, the Rupununi region with its vast savannas and remarkable biodiversity, and the splendid and picturesque capital city of Georgetown.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

## Recipe Pepperpot Guyanés

**Ingredients:**

1 pound of oxtail
2 pounds of beef for shredding
1 pound of beef bones for broth
1 pound of goat meat (optional)
Guyanese Wiri Wiri peppers

**For the Marinade**

1 cup of cassareep
2 tbsp brown sugar
½ onion
3 garlic cloves
1 tbsp fresh thyme
1 pinch white pepper
1 tsp cayenne pepper
Guyanese Wiri Wiri peppers

**For the Stew**

1/3 onion, diced
3 garlic cloves
Oil
3 medium cinnamon sticks
1 pinch ground cloves
Guyanese Wiri Wiri peppers
Salt to taste

**Instructions**

Prepare the marinade by blending all the marinade ingredients into a thick, smooth paste. The mixture should be homogeneous and fairly dry so that the flavors remain concentrated.

Coat the meat and beef bones completely with the marinade. Make sure all the meat is thoroughly covered. Let it marinate for at least 40 minutes before cooking.

To start the stew, sauté the diced onion and garlic in oil over high heat. Add the marinated meat and sear it well. Then add the cinnamon sticks, a pinch of ground cloves, and the chopped Wiri Wiri peppers. Pour in 2 cups of water, reduce the heat, and simmer for about 2 hours.

Serve garnished with fresh herbs to brighten the flavor. It can be accompanied by steamed white rice.

# ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

## Guyana

## Guyana

La República cooperativa Guyana es uno de los países más pequeños de la parte continental del cono sur del continente americano. Cuenta con varios sitios turísticos, no sólo sus costas que pueden parecer simplemente sacadas de los sueños, sino también sus ríos y cascadas. El nombre Guyana tiene su origen en la raíz de las lenguas Arawak que significa "tierra de muchas aguas".

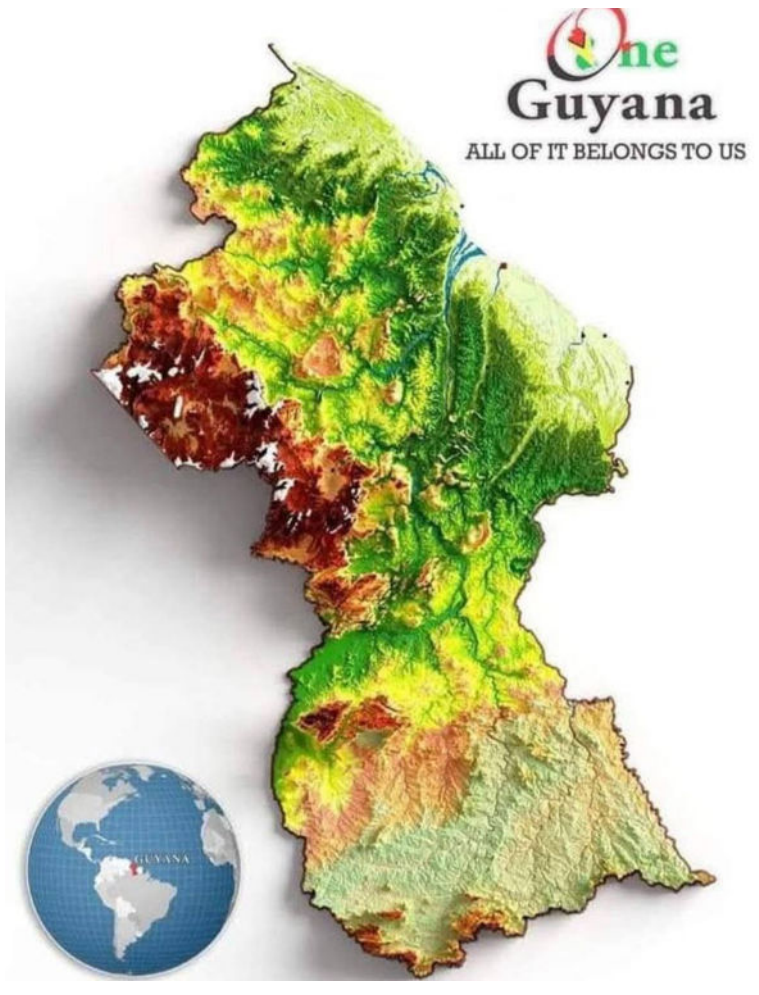
Se encuentra entre el Río Orinoco y el Río Amazonas, lo que le permite compartir las riquezas naturales de la región selvática de la Amazonia. Debido a que forma parte de la región ecuatorial cuenta con bosque húmedos y selvas.

La Guyana tiene un lugar estratégico en la región del caribe continental, pues colinda con Brasil y Venezuela. El territorio fue colonizado por los británicos y a pesar de haber luchado por su independencia del reino unido, alcanzó un estatus intermedio, pues aún forma parte de la mancomunidad de naciones británicas desde 1966.

Los pueblos indígenas reconocidos por el gobierno de su país son los makushi, wapishana, los lokono (arawak), akawaino, patamona, wai wai, arekuna y warrau.

Es común aprovechar la visita a la Guyana para disfrutar y conocer una cultura rica en gastronomía que uno los tres continentes: América, África y Esuropa.

Las visitas para conocer las Cataratas de Kaieteur, el bosque de Iwokrama, la región de extensas sabanas y gran biodiversidad de Rupuni, así como la esplendorosa y pintoresca ciudad capital de Georgetown.

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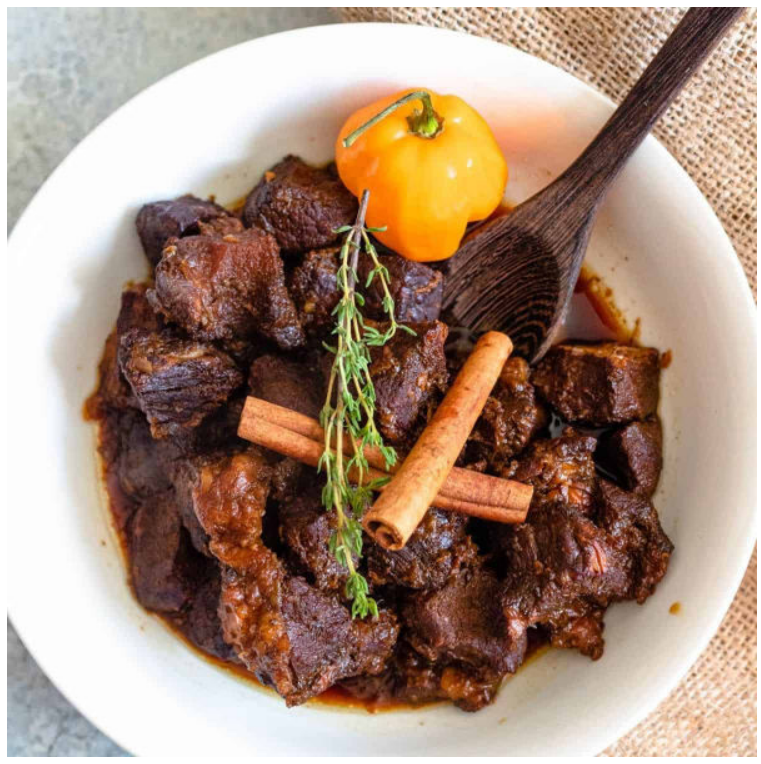
## Receta Pepperpot Guyanés



**Ingredientes:**

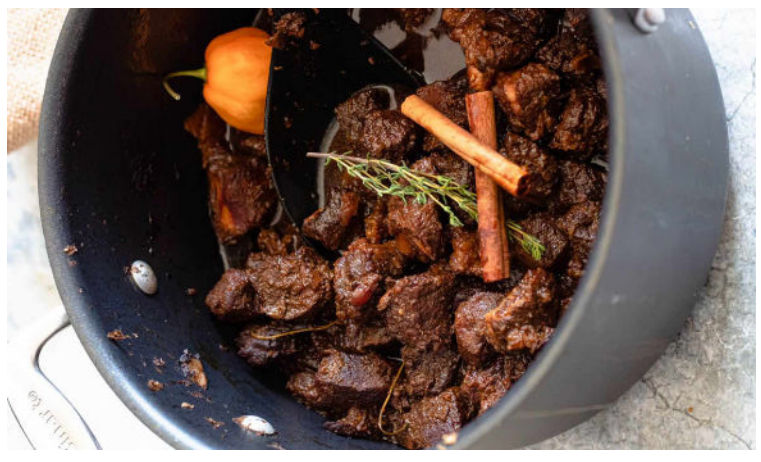
1 libra de carne de cola de res
2 libras de carne de res para deshebrar
1 libra de Huesos de res para caldo
1 libra Carne de cabra (opcional)
Chile Wiri Wiri Guyano

**Para el Adobo:**

1 taza de Jarabe de Yuca Amarga
2 cdas Azúcar morena
½ Cebolla
3 Ajos
1 cucharada de Tomillo fresco
1 pizca de Pimienta Blanca
1 cdita de Pimienta de cayena
Chile Wiri Wiri guyano

**Para el guiso**

1/3 de cebolla en cuadritos
3 ajos
Aceite
3 rajas de canela medianas
1 pizca de clavo en polvo
Chile Wiri Wiri Guyano
Sal al gusto



**Preparación**

Se elabora el adobo mezclando todos los ingredientes del adobo hasta que queden como pasta, la mezcla debe ser homogénea y espesa, casi reseca para que los sabores se concentren.

Posteriormente se pone a marinar la carne junto con los huesos en el adobo, en la carne, debe quedar la carne completamente cubierta en adobo. Se deja marinar por al menos 40 minutos antes de llevar a cocción.

Para iniciar el guiso, es necesario saltear la cebolla y el ajo picados a fuego alto, luego agregar la carne marinada a que se selle, la canela y 1 pizca de clavo en polvo, el chile Wiri Wiri picado y posteriormente agregar 2 tazas de agua para poner a cocer a fuego lento por 2 horas.

Se puede servir en un plato con un poco de hierbas frescas para refrescar el sabor, así como acompañarlo de arroz blanco.

Deje atrás el dolor de cuello y espalda.

¿Le duele el cuello y la espalda? Trinity Health tiene los últimos métodos y tecnologías para ayudarle. Nuestro equipo busca muchas opciones para crear el plan de tratamiento justo para usted. Desde terapia ocupacional y manejo del dolor hasta cirugías de columna avanzadas, despídase de la vida con dolor. Comuníquese con el programa de columna de Trinity Health hoy y vuelva a disfrutar sus actividades diarias.

TrinityHealthMi.org/Spine

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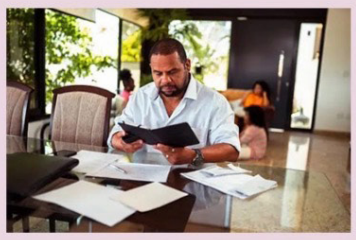
## Protegiendo los Documentos Importantes de Tu Familia

Prepararse es un acto de amor y cuidado

Sesión informativa por Zoom gratuita para familias inmigrantes



### Tienes preguntas sobre:

- Quién cuidaría de mis hijos o dependientes si yo no pudiera hacerlo?
- ¿Cómo puedo organizar información financiera importante, incluyendo cuentas bancarias, beneficios y otros bienes?
- ¿Cómo puedo proteger documentos importantes relacionados con propiedades, vehículos, vivienda o mi negocio?
- ¿Qué documentos debería tener mi familia en caso de una emergencia?

**Este seminario web está abierto a todas las familias inmigrantes, sin importar su estatus migratorio.**

22 de Junio 6:00pm-7:30pm

MISC Macomb Immigrant Service Center
Centro Multicultural La Familia
Sus Abogados Latinos
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**June 22-July 22, 2026 | 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

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Join the SDCDC for our very first Summer Discovery Program for students entering 3rd-8th grade in fall 2026! Activities include:

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- Math and ELA
- Music
- Financial Literacy
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Clark Park Coalition Detroit

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The Clark Park Culture and Arts Festival is a joyful neighborhood gathering where families, friends, and longtime Southwest Detroiters come together to celebrate the creativity and spirit of our community. Spend the afternoon enjoying local music, art, activities, an d shared cultural pride. Connect with neighbors, explore community resources, and enjoy free food while it lasts. The festival is free and open to all—no tickets needed. Come feel at home in the heart of Southwest Detroit.

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Sat, June 27**
**1PM– 4PM**

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